

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1-10. (Canceled).
11. (Currently Amended) A cooking area comprising at least one heating element, a power controller for setting a heating output of the heating element which operates according to the set heating output in at least one of a first operating mode and a second operating mode, and an indicating device which indicates the set heating outputs in the first operating mode with symbols from a first set of symbols, wherein the indicating device indicates heating outputs in the second operating mode with symbols from a second set of symbols of a different symbolism compared to the first set of symbols.
12. (Currently Amended) The cooking area according to claim 11, wherein the indicating device ~~is embodied as a single digit~~ consists of a seven-segment display.
13. (Currently Amended) The cooking area according to claim 11, wherein the first set of symbols comprises a series of numbers from "0" to "9" and the second set of symbols does not include numbers.
14. (Previously Presented) The cooking area according to claim 12, wherein the second set of symbols comprises combinations of three transverse segments of the seven-segment display.

15. (Currently Amended) The cooking area according to claim 11, wherein the heating outputs associated with the first operating mode are grouped in a group of high heating outputs and the heating outputs associated with the second operating mode are grouped in a group of low heating outputs.
16. (Previously Presented) The cooking area according to claim 11, wherein the first operating mode is a continuous operating mode in which power is supplied continuously to the heating element.
17. (Previously Presented) The cooking area according to claim 11, wherein the second operating mode is a clocked operating mode in which power is supplied discontinuously to the heating element.
18. (Previously Presented) The cooking area according to claim 11, wherein the heating element is a gas burner which is supplied with gas via a gas pipe.
19. (Currently Amended) The cooking area according to claim~~18~~17, wherein the clocked operating mode is activated at heating outputs below a minimum heating output at which the heating element is still operating with a minimal continuous supply of gas in the continuous operating mode.
20. (Previously Presented) The cooking area according to claim~~11~~17, wherein the display device displays the symbols for indicating power stages in which the heating element is operating in the clocked mode as flashing.